

PUGET SOUND PARTNERSHIP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT

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Gov. Gregoire adds charter members, co-chair to Puget Sound Partnership

OLYMPIA – Gov. Chris Gregoire announces four new charter members and an additional co-chair for the Puget Sound Partnership, a public-private group charged with ramping up efforts to clean up, protect and restore Puget Sound.

The new members are:

- **Sam Anderson**, Executive Director, Seattle-King County Master Builders Association
- **Michael Bogert**, Regional Administrator, EPA Region 10
- **Jim Darling**, Executive Director, Port Of Bellingham
- **Patty Lent**, Kitsap County Commissioner

Anderson, Bogert, Darling and Lent join the members who were appointed on Dec. 19, 2005:

- **Chris Gregoire***, Governor
- **Bill Ruckelshaus***, Salmon Recovery Funding Board Chair
- **Billy Frank, Jr.*** Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission Chair
- **Norm Dicks**, U.S. Representative
- **Mark Emmert**, Ph.D., University of Washington President
- **Kathy Fletcher**, People for Puget Sound Executive Director
- **Colin Moseley**, Green Diamond Company President, Simpson Resource Company Chair
- **Mike Shelby**, Western Washington Agricultural Association Executive Director
- **Ron Sims**, King County Executive
- **Bill Taylor**, Taylor Shellfish Farms Vice President

**co-chairs*

The Governor also asked Billy Frank, Jr., chair of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, to serve as a co-chair with her and Bill Ruckelshaus.

“The Puget Sound Partnership has the critically important task of restoring and protecting Puget Sound, an area of the state that is vital to our economy and our quality of life,” said the Governor. “I am extremely pleased with the breadth of experience and interests represented on the new partnership. I am very optimistic that this broad, public-private body will lead us on a path to safeguard and sustain the magnificent Puget Sound.”

Partnership work to date

In December, the Governor charged the partnership with five major tasks and asked for initial recommendations by June 15, and final recommendations by October. The tasks are:

- 1. 2020 agenda:** Recommend a set of key actions to recover the Sound by 2020.
- 2. Public involvement:** Engage citizens, governments, the business and conservation communities, and others in ramping up efforts to recover the Sound.
- 3. Organizational structure:** Recommend the best organizational structures and approaches to steward the Sound back to health and protect it over time.
- 4. Funding:** Review funding sources for protecting and restoring the Sound and set spending priorities to achieve the desired outcomes by 2020.
- 5. Science:** Recommend how broad-based scientific knowledge should be organized and applied in order to inform policies and assist in setting/meeting goals.

To accomplish this ambitious effort, the partnership will hold regular meetings among its charter members. The public is welcome to attend. The partnership also will organize a series of public forums throughout Puget Sound between March and October to more fully engage citizens, businesses, conservation groups, scientists and tribal, local, state and federal governments in the conversation.

At its first meeting in January, the partnership clarified its assignments and authorized two project managers to co-manage the effort: Brad Ack, Chair of the Puget Sound Action Team, and Jim Kramer, Executive Director for Shared Strategy for Puget Sound. A lead staff person, Martha Neuman, has been hired to support the project managers. The partnership also authorized sub-committees to handle detailed work on the communications and science tasks. Additional subcommittees will be appointed as needed. Contractor support will be hired as needed for various functions as resources allow.

The partnership's meeting schedule follows. The public forum schedule will be announced in March. For the Feb. 25 meeting agenda, visit www.pugetsoundpartnership.org

- February 25
 - 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 - King Street Center, 8th floor conference room, 201 S. Jackson St., Seattle
- March (date TBA, tentative for the 27th)
- April 24
- May 31- June 1
- July 22
- September 8
- October 5-6
- December – date to be determined

Also, a special event where the partnership's recommendations will be announced is planned for Oct. 25 and 26.

More information

Visit www.pugetsoundpartnership.org for more information, and to sign up for an e-newsletter to receive regular news about the partnership's progress.

ADDITIONAL MEDIA CONTACTS

Staff to the Puget Sound Partnership

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Chair

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